consultation with the State Public Service Commission and the chief Justice of the High Court and two Law Judges who shall be holding at least a bachelors Degree and having experience in socially oriented activities for at least five years in the locality. The Gram Nyayalayas would be holding the courts at their head quarters and also as Mobile Courts in the close proximity of the places where the parties ordinarily reside in the Nyayalays's territorial jurisdiction. The Gram Nyayalayas will deal with civil and criminal cases and follow sugary procedure and have a time bound plan of disposal of the cases coming before them. The manpower required for the proposed Gram Nyayalayas shall be in addition to the existing judicial officers of the subordinate judiciary. There are at present about 6097 intermediate panchayats. The exact number of Gram Nyayalayas which will be established will depend upon the requirement of the States and broad criteria as may be finalized by the proposed enactment.

(c) and (d) As the proposal has not yet been finalized, it is too early to work out the financial implications for establishments of the Gram Nyayalayas.

Construction of Courts Building in Tamil Nadu

1293. SHRI SU. THIRUNAVUKKARASAR: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any amount was allotted for construction of District and Munsif Court Buildings in Tamil Nadu for the year 2004-05 and 2005-06; and

(b) whether any proposal has come from the State Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. VENKATAPATHY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) A perspective plan for construction of court buildings and residence for the judicial officers in the State during the next ten years, has been received from the State Government of Tamil Nadu.

Health hazards in asbestos mining

1294. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
SHRI HARISH RAWAT:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian Bureau of Mines has conducted a study on the health hazards for asbestos mine workers of Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the findings thereof and whether the study recommended for lifting of ban on asbestos leasing;

(c) whether Government have an intention to implement these suggestions and lifting ban on leasing and renewal of leases of asbestos mining; and

(d) if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) to (d) In 1998, Ministry of Mines had approved a S&T Project titled 'Study of Pollution Level in Asbestos Mines and processing plants in Rajasthan' to be undertaken by Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM), a subordinate office of the Ministry to assess the feasibility of lifting the ban on expansion of asbestos mining through a scientific study of pollution level in asbestos mines and processing plants in Rajasthan and in Andhra Pradesh and to suggest appropriate mitigation measures. The Study recommended that the ban imposed on grant and renewal of mining leases and expansion of mining may be lifted subject to control of pollution level in work environment of various operations and other remedial measures.

Recommendations of the Study have been examined in consultation with all Stake holders. Some stake holders have suggested that the asbestos mining can be permitted with appropriate safeguards. IBM in consultation with Central Pollution Control Board has been asked to work out these safeguards. At present the ban on mining of asbestos has not been lifted.

MoUs with State Governments

1295. SHRI CHITTABRATA MUJUMDAR:
SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of MoUs signed with steel manufacturers by the State Government of Orissa, Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand during last one year for iron ore mining;

(b) the tentative commitment for allocation of iron ore reserves in the MoUs to the steel makers MoU wise; and

(c) the proven iron ore reserves in the above States, as estimated by the Indian Bureau of Mines?